

Exhibit 3: Letters of Support

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 4032
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TEL (916) 445-1353
FAX (916) 324-4823

DISTRICT OFFICES
10951 WEST PICO BLVD., SUITE 202
LOS ANGELES, CA 90064
TEL (310) 441-9084
FAX (310) 441-0724

300 WEST THIRD ST., 4TH FLOOR
OXNARD, CA 93030
TEL (805) 486-3776
FAX (805) 486-6865

California State Senate

SENATOR
SHEILA JAMES KUEHL

TWENTY-THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT

CHAIR
NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE



COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE AND WATER
RESOURCES
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
JUDICIARY
LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS

SELECT COMMITTEES:
CHAIR, HEALTH CARE FOR ALL
CALIFORNIANS
CHAIR, SCHOOL SAFETY
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND
MENTAL HEALTH
ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY
GENETICS, GENETIC TECHNOLOGY
AND PUBLIC POLICY
VICE CHAIR, INTERNATIONAL TRADE
POLICY AND STATE LEGISLATION
INVESTIGATE PRICE MANIPULATION
OF THE WHOLESALE ENERGY
MARKET
URBAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS
SUBCOMMITTEE:
KING/DREW MEDICAL FACILITY

January 4, 2005

Douglas Bosco, Chair
Members of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway 11th Floor,
Oakland, CA 94612

kan

Re: File No. 04-103 Phase III Topanga Creek and Lagoon Feasibility Study; Rodeo Grounds
Removal Study and Hydro geological Study

Dear Chair Bosco and Boardmembers:

I am writing to express my strong support for the continued efforts to restore the historic Topanga Lagoon at Topanga Creek. The Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains' efforts over the past 5 years have revealed the need to gain more information in order to restore the lagoon in a manner that will support the recovery of two species: steelhead trout and tidewater gobies. Sediment buildup in the creek channel, caused by the installation of the Rodeo Grounds berm, has removed over one thousand feet of vital spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead. In order to remove the berm, we must identify the type of fill material that was used and complete the evaluation of the removal process.

Another important aspect of the proposed study is to understand how groundwater-fed seeps and springs work. This information is vital to the establishment of a comprehensive restoration plan; the steelhead trout rely upon refuges of cold, oxygenated waters scattered throughout Topanga Creek. The proposed study will provide pertinent information needed to develop appropriate Best Management Practices to support the continued recovery of steelhead in Topanga.

The Coastal Conservancy's monetary support for the proposed study will help further efforts to restore and preserve Topanga Creek and Lagoon. I hope you will join me in supporting this worthwhile project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sheila James Kuehl

SHEILA JAMES KUEHL
Senator, 23rd District

Representing the cities of Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Monica, West Hollywood and Westlake Village
and the communities of Bel Air, Brentwood, Canoga Park, Encino, Hollywood, Mt. Olympus, Pacific Palisades, Sherman Oaks,
Studio City, Tarzana, Topanga, West Los Angeles, West Hills, Westwood and Woodland Hills.

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CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE
ON RESOURCES (NO. 3)
COMMITTEE MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, SPORTS,
TOURISM & INTERNET MEDIA
BUDGET
EDUCATION
TRANSPORTATION
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Assembly
California Legislature

FRAN PAVLEY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FORTY-FIRST DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0041
(916) 319-2041
FAX (916) 319-2141

DISTRICT OFFICE
6355 TOPANGA CANYON BLVD.
SUITE 205
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367-2108
(818) 596-4141
(310) 395-3414
(805) 644-4141
FAX (818) 596-4150

January 4, 2005

Douglas Bosco, Chair, and Commissioners
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

**Re: Phase III Topanga Creek and Lagoon Feasibility Study –
Rodeo Grounds Removal Study and Hydrological Study
File No. 04-103**

Dear Chairman Bosco and Commissioners:

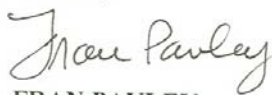
Efforts to restore the historic lagoon at Topanga Creek have been ongoing for over five years and much progress has been made. However, in the course of developing a restoration plan, it became clear that important pieces of information were lacking.

First, the Rodeo Grounds berm, constructed by tenants after the 1980 flood, has significantly altered the creek channel and caused a sediment buildup that has removed over 1,000 feet of important spawning and rearing habitat for endangered steelhead trout. In order to remove the berm, it is necessary to identify what fill materials were used, where that material could be properly disposed of, and what the costs will be.

Second, the fish rely on refugia of cold, oxygenated waters scattered throughout Topanga Creek. The role of groundwater-fed seeps and springs is a critical factor in the successful reproduction of steelhead in Topanga, and it is necessary to understand how the seeps and springs work. The hydrological study will provide essential information to develop appropriate Best Management Practices to support the continued recovery of steelhead in Topanga Creek.

I strongly support these two studies. Thank you.

Sincerely,



FRAN PAVLEY,
Assemblymember, 41st District
FP:lr

Exhibit 3: Letters of Support



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

821 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
PHONE (213) 974-3333 / FAX (213) 625-7360
zev@bos.co.la.ca.us / <http://zev.co.la.ca.us>

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT

January 5, 2005

Kara Kearney

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
CA Coastal Conservancy
Board of Governors
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Phase III Topanga Creek and Lagoon Feasibility Study: Rodeo Grounds Removal Study and Hydrogeological Study File No. 04-103

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to urge continued funding for the restoration of the historic lagoon at Topanga Creek. Though much progress has been made over the past 5 years in support of the recovery of endangered steelhead trout in this area, it has been brought to my attention that important information is still needed.

The Rodeo Grounds Berm, installed by tenants after the 1980 flood, has significantly altered the creek channel and caused a sediment buildup that has removed over 1,000 feet of important spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead. In order to remove the berm, it is necessary to identify what fill materials were used, where they could be disposed of, and what the costs will be to accomplish this task. I strongly support taking this important step towards restoring lower Topanga Creek.

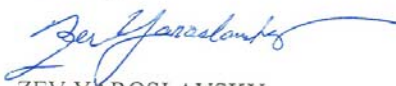
Additionally, the fish rely upon refugia of cold, oxygenated waters scattered throughout Topanga Creek. The role of groundwater fed seeps and springs is clearly a critical factor in the successful reproduction of steelhead in Topanga. In order to develop the most effective restoration plan for the Narrows, as well as several other areas within the 4 miles of creek inhabited by the trout, we need to understand how these seeps and springs work. This study will provide essential information needed to develop appropriate Best Management strategies to support the continued recovery of steelhead in Topanga.

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Page Two
January 5, 2005
Supervisor Yaroslavy/CA Coastal Conservancy

I strongly support these efforts to continue the restoration and preservation of Topanga Creek and thank you for the funding support provided by the CA Coastal Conservancy towards this worthwhile goal.

Sincerely,



ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Supervisor, Third District

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OAKLAND, CALIF.

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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
401 West Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, California 91360-4207

N1615(SAMO)
December 23, 2004

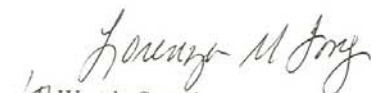
Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman
CA Coastal Conservancy
Board of Governors
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

This is a letter of support for the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountain's (RCD) continuing effort to improve habitat conditions for endangered steelhead trout and tidewater goby. As you may know Topanga Creek is one of the most southerly populations of steelhead trout. Over the last five years the RCD in partnership with Pepperdine University, US Geological Survey and the National Park Service have been conducting on-going surveys of habitat quality for native amphibians and steelhead trout. Topanga Creek is unique in that it has good water quality, is relatively undeveloped and supports sustainable populations of both steelhead trout and tidewater goby. However, conditions can still be greatly improved to facilitate fish passage.

The data that has already been gathered in Topanga Creek by the RCD has been a tremendous help in understanding steelhead trout populations in the Santa Monica Mountains. Their efforts have been helpful in other steelhead restoration efforts in the Santa Monica Mountains as well. Therefore, we support their proposal for the hydro-geological studies and the removal of the Rodeo Grounds Berm at Topanga Creek. We appreciate your consideration for funding and look forward to projects that improve fish passage in the Santa Monica Mountains.

Sincerely,


for Woody Smeck
Superintendent

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA—THE RESOURCES AGENCY

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

RAMIREZ CANYON PARK
5750 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90265
PHONE (310) 589-3200
FAX (310) 589-3207



December 28, 2004

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

Phase III Topanga Creek and Lagoon Feasibility Study: Rodeo Grounds Removal Study and Hydrogeological Study File No. 04-103

Dear Chairperson Bosco and Members:

Efforts to restore the historic lagoon at Topanga Creek have been ongoing for over five years and much progress has been made. In the course of developing a restoration plan for the Topanga Lagoon that would support the recovery of endangered steelhead trout and tidewater gobies, it became clear that several important pieces of information were still missing.

First, the Rodeo Grounds Berm, installed illegally by tenants after the 1980 flood, has significantly altered the creek channel and caused a sediment buildup that has removed over 1,000 feet of important spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead. In order to remove the berm, it is necessary to identify what fill materials were used, where they could be disposed of, and the associated costs. It is a critical first step towards restoring lower Topanga Creek.

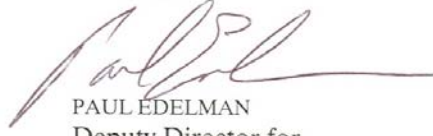
Additionally, the fish rely upon the refugia of cold, oxygenated waters scattered throughout Topanga Creek. The role of groundwater fed seeps and springs is clearly a critical factor in the successful reproduction of steelhead in Topanga. In order to develop the most effective restoration plan for the Narrows, as well as several other areas within the four miles of creek inhabited by the trout, we need to understand how these seeps and springs work. This study will provide essential information to support the continued recovery of steelhead in Topanga.

Exhibit 3: Letters of Support

Mr. Douglas Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
December 28, 2004
Page 2

We strongly support these efforts to continue the restoration and preservation of Topanga Creek, a watershed of statewide significance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul Edelman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PAUL EDELMAN
Deputy Director for
Natural Resources and Planning

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Exhibit 3: Letters of Support



3220 Nebraska Avenue
Santa Monica CA 90404

ph 310 453 0395
fax 310 453 7927

info@healthebay.org
www.healthebay.org

Tuesday, January 04, 2005

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
CA Coastal Conservancy
Board of Governors
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Topanga Creek and Lagoon Rodeo Grounds Berm Removal Study and Hydrogeological Study
File No. 04-103

Dear Chairman Bosco,

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental group dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and southern California's coastal waters safe and healthy again for people and marine life. The Topanga Creek Watershed is the third largest watershed and one of the most heavily used recreational areas along Santa Monica Bay. The additional studies proposed by the Resource Conservation District and the California Department of Parks and Recreation are necessary to successfully engage in a creek and lagoon restoration in Topanga. Heal the Bay strongly supports the proposed restoration activities and urges the Conservancy to continue to support this important work.

Over the past five years the Resource Conservation District and the California Department of Parks and Recreation have led substantial research and study efforts to create a plan to restore the historic lagoon at Topanga Creek. The restoration plan for the Topanga Lagoon will support and enhance the recovery of endangered steelhead trout, tidewater gobies, wetland and riparian habitat. During the development of the restoration plan it became clear further information is needed regarding the specific sediment composition of the berm and the interaction of groundwater on the lower creek in order to successfully undertake this restoration.

We strongly support these efforts to continue the restoration and preservation of Topanga Creek. We appreciate the funding support provided by the CA Coastal Conservancy towards this worthwhile goal.

Sincerely,

Mark Abramson
Stream Team Manager
Heal the Bay

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OAKLAND, CALIF.